

Equinox House  
City Link  
Nottingham  
Nottinghamshire  
NG2 4LA

Email: [FOI@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@supplychain.nhs.uk)  
[www.supplychain.nhs.uk](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk)

10 March 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: SCCL-FOI-2024/25-175**

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL are able to provide a response in blue below. Please note that the data provided is only for products procured through SCCL and not those procured by NHS entities directly from suppliers.

I would like to request the following information for the 2023 and 2024 procurement of stethoscopes by the NHS if available:

1. Annual Procurement
  - How many stethoscopes were purchased by the NHS in total?  
[36,446.](#)
  - How many were purchased by NHS Trusts, hospitals, and other NHS entities?  
[SCCL does not hold this information.](#)
2. Stethoscope Models & Providers
  - Which brands and models of stethoscopes were purchased, and how many of each?  
[Please see below table listing stethoscopes purchased. SCCL are unable to provide how many of each brand has been purchased as it is exempt from disclosure under section 43\(2\) \(Commercial Interests\) of the FOI Act 2000. This provides that information can be withheld where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person \(including the public authority holding it\).](#)  
[It is acknowledged that the statutory exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA requires SCCL to consider the public interest for and against disclosure of the requested information. SCCL has considered the public interest arguments for and against disclosure of information to which the exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA applies.](#)

Brand
<a href="#">3M Littman Cardiology IV</a>
<a href="#">3M Littman Classic III</a>
<a href="#">3M Littman Core Digital</a>
<a href="#">3M Infant</a>
<a href="#">3M Littman Light Weight II</a>
<a href="#">3M Littman Master Cardiology</a>
<a href="#">3M Littman Paediatric</a>

3M Single Patient
Accoson
Guardian
Guardian Spirit
Heine
Henry Schein
KaWe
Medigenix
PROACT
Riester
Rossmax
Seca
Spirit
Timesco
Timesco Cardiology
Timesco Deluxe Cardiology
Timesco Diamond
Timesco Diamond Infant
Timesco Diamond Neonatal
Timesco Diamond Paediatric
Timesco Ruby
Timesco Teaching

- If known: What healthcare provider roles (e.g., doctors, nurses, paramedics) were these stethoscopes purchased for?  
SCCL does not hold this information.

- If known: Has the NHS purchased any digital stethoscopes? If yes, how many and which brand?

Yes, the 3M Littman Core Digital. SCCL are unable to provide how many has been purchased as it is exempt from disclosure under section 43(2) (Commercial Interests) of the FOI Act 2000. This provides that information can be withheld where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). It is acknowledged that the statutory exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA requires SCCL to consider the public interest for and against disclosure of the requested information. SCCL has considered the public interest arguments for and against disclosure of information to which the exemption provided by section 43 of the FOIA applies.

### 3. Pricing & Suppliers

- What is the average price paid per stethoscope?  
The average cost of a stethoscope has been achieved by dividing the total sales £ by number of products sold, £205,009 / 36,446 = £5.63.
- What was the total expenditure on stethoscopes for the year?  
£205,009.00
- Who are the main suppliers from whom the NHS purchases stethoscopes?  
Please see below the list of suppliers that have been awarded to the Stethoscope lot on the Patient Assessment Devices Framework:

RUDOLF RIESTER GMBH
HENLEYS MEDICAL SUPPLIES LIMITED
SECA LIMITED
PROACT MEDICAL LTD

SYRINGA WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR
HENRY SCHEIN MEDICAL
KCI MEDICAL LIMITED (3M)
TIMESCO HEALTHCARE LTD
ALBERT WAESCHLE LTD

We hope that this response addresses your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the postal or e-mail addresses above, quoting the reference number above. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the handling of your information request will be reassessed by a member of SCCL staff who was not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the FOI team.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

**Supply Chain Coordination Limited**  
**Management Function of NHS Supply Chain**